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健料E UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

MAEDA, et al

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For:

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APPARATUS

Group:

2653

Examiner:

K. Chu

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Technology Center 2600

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 28, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action July 30, 2004, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application, as listed below and as set forth on the following pages:

Amendment of the Claims; and

Remarks are included following the amendments.